

KEEPING PACE WITH SPORTING EVENTS

EDITED BY TY HETTINGER

LEONARD EASILY WHIPS CLINE IN SIX-ROUND FIGHT

Lightweight Champion Takes Title Contender Into Camp In Lively Encounter Before Olympia A. C. In Philadelphia—Cline on Verge of Collapse at Final Gong, But Hangs Gamely On—Leonard Fails In Desperate Attempt at Knockout.

Philadelphia, Dec. 13.—Benny Leonard, the world's lightweight champion, fought Patsy Cline six rounds last night at the Olympia A. C. Cline, who was considered a possible challenger when a championship match is talked about. The smooth-haired champion drove his terrible right pitifully into Cline's body so steadily and with so much thunderous effect, that he soon had Cline in a condition where he was willing to stay the limit. It was probably the first real test Leonard had since he wrestled the world's title from Freddie Welch. As everybody knew, Cline was the closest rival he had for in all his recent battles. Cline emerged with the palm of victory. Cline, a real clever lad, was no match for Benny for the champion made the former miss and flounder, and at the same time pounded away with the right; the wallop that brought him to the top of fame's ladder.

Summing up the battle, which was spectacular, Cline only looked prominently in one round, the third. In that session he fought like a raging demon and swung a few left hooks that shook up the champion considerably. He was on top of Leonard in this period persistently and started the admirers of the champion by his aggressiveness. "Was a costly attempt, for Leonard came forth in the new few rounds and punched Cline ferociously."

Leonard's Best Round. In the fifth round Leonard removed all worry from his handlers by the masterly manner in which he handled Cline. In this round the boys came out with a rush. There was a fierce mix-up and then Leonard tore loose with a short right uppercut that struck Cline directly over the heart. The latter faltered for a second, then dove in for safety.

Leonard then battered away with right and left hooks and carried Cline all over the ring. Patsy hung on for dear life, for the stings of the blows hurt.

It was necessary for the referee to break the boys and the Leonard bludgeoned Cline's ribs with right and left swings. This punishment used up what little reserve energy Cline had.

Just before the bell Leonard hit Cline flush on the jaw with a left and the effect of the wallop made him slip to the floor. As he rose the bell rang and Patsy staggered to his corner, a beaten man but determined to stay the limit.

Cline Resorts to Clinching. In the final session Cline never allowed Leonard to get room to swing those deadly wallops that sent many antagonists to sleep. Leonard was keyed up to fury's point and made every possible at-

tempt to slip Cline the fatal toll. Beaten though he was, Cline hugged and hampered Leonard so cleverly that he lasted the limit.

When the boys entered the ring the weights were announced as Cline 134 1-2 and Leonard 134 1-4. This showed that the two lads trained hard for this match.

Cline was very nervous as the boys waited in their corners for the opening bell, but at the gong he stepped right out and led with a left. It was a fight from the start, neither man doing any fancy boxing, but tearing in punched with all their weight behind the leads.

Benny stuck a long left in Patsy's face and then crossed a wicked right to the head that was too high to do much damage. After a minute of open scrapping Cline worked into close quarters, but Benny knew too much about this brand of mixing and ripped home a dozen rights and lefts to the mid-section.

First Blood for Benny. Leonard earned first blood early in the second round, when a wicked left hook opened a cut over Patsy's right eye. Cline was stung by the blow and hung on until the referee separated them. As they were pulled apart, Cline butted Benny and then brought back his right elbow and caught the champion on the throat.

Cline put on full power in the third round and gave Benny a merry time of it. Leonard started a left, but Patsy dropped a right over the lead and caught Benny under the left eye, raising a fine "berry." Before Benny could get back into a fighting position Cline hooked a left to the jaw and followed with a right swing that landed just back of Benny's ear. Then Cline got inside of Leonard's arms at close quarters and gave the champion a fine pasting about the ribs until the bell rang.

The hard fighting in the third round Cline slowed up to a walk in the fourth and Leonard outboxed and outpunched the challenger from bell to bell.

In the fifth Cline started a left and Benny beat him to the punch with a right. Patsy lunged forward as he missed and fell to his knees. It was not a real knock-down. When Cline got up he ran into a left to the face that sent his head back and a right hook followed by a right uppercut had him dizzy and he hung on for dear life.

As they broke Cline stabbed Benny on the nose and opened a little cut just above the bridge of the champion's breathing organ.

The sixth round found Cline in there just to stick it out to the finish. He didn't try to land a single punch, but ran and covered the entire three minutes.

BOSTON CLUB TO BAR "DOC" BAGLEY

Boston, Dec. 13.—The directors of the Armory Athletic association here, the biggest fight club in the East, last night voted that Frank "Doc" Bagley of New York City, manager of Bartley Madden, Willie Jackson and Benny Volger, would not be permitted to have any further dealings with the club and that all boxers under his management would be barred by the club. This action is the outcome of a decision made Tuesday night by Case "Tex" O'Rourke, who called the contest a draw after Levinsky had beaten his opponent badly in every round.

Sailor Grande Again Fails To Produce Goods

Sailor Grande of this city apparently has by this time given up all hope of ever coming back for his attempt at re-establishing himself in pugdom, fell flat last night in his fourth round bout with Zulu Kid of Brooklyn, in the presence of about 200 fans at Battling Levinsky's gym on Newfield avenue. The Sailor fought a game battle, but his efforts went for naught and he had to bow in submission to the Brooklyn light heavyweight.

Zulu was in excellent trim for the engagement, while the sailor's surplus beef made him clumsy and awkward. The latter lacked a hard punch and his straight arm seldom landed. Grande was game to the core. He was out to show that he was still handy with his gloves, but he had tackled a battler far his superior to make his re-entry.

Youth had to be served. Zulu, a young man possessing a wonderful physique, was in command of the battle from its outset. He side-stepped and ducked Grande's most dangerous blows. His clouts were clean and most of them were brought up from the floor. He worked around the sailor until the latter rushed in and then he would bring up his right hand, usually landing it with full force on Grande's chin.

Although Grande did considerable jumping around trying to dodge Zulu's punches, he was not fatigued. This surprised his friends, who had expected that his long absence from the roped arena would render him unable to go through even four rounds without tiring. But the Sailor surprised them as, although defeated, he was still in a fighting mood and could probably have gone four more rounds without being injured.

As far as thrills were concerned there were but few. Neither had showed anything out of the ordinary. Zulu did not permit Sailor to get set. He rushed him persistently and consistently. Grande's rushes were harmless and generally resulted in clinches. They fought with one hand free, break at the order of the referee. This rule was enforced throughout the mill.

The best bout of the evening was the four-rounder furnished by Chas. Turner and Young Brooks, two Bridgeport boys. They fought a slashing draw. This was their second engagement in six days. It wouldn't be a bad idea if the promoter of the next big show here rematched this pair for a six-rounder. They do not know the definition of the word stalling. Last night they slambanged each other all over the ring.

It would have been unreasonable for any of the fans at the smother last night to have asked for a better battle from this pair. They hooked, crossed and chopped each other on practically every turn. Neither one knows anything about the finer points of the game. All they knew was to hit and step away.

Brooks showed a trifle better last night than he did at the last week and had his opponent guessing and slugged it hard. He carried a good, stiff kick in each mitt. The phase of the slugfest that astonished the fans was that despite the top speed at which they traveled and the steam that backed each wallop, neither was even shaken.

Burns Holds Williams.

Toto Burns of this city came into his own again by holding Young Williams to a fast draw in another four-round affair. Toto was in fine fettle and fought at top form. In the first two rounds he found himself in pretty deep water, but he managed to climb out in the third round, winning the stanza and adding the next one to his list.

The two other bouts, each scheduled to go four rounds, were one-sided affairs. In the curtain raiser Young McMahon, a crack and promising 105-pounder, stopped Jimmy DeForest in the second round. Terry Lee stopped the bout between Jack Toland and Young George Chip in the second round. Chip was on the losing end. He knew nothing about boxing and Lee did his duty as referee in stopping it.

TODAY IN PUGILISTIC ANNALS.

1891—Yankee Swartz was born on this date.

1910—Young Britt and Dix Mackey fought six rounds, no decision, at Rochester.

1911—Georges Carpentier, French, won the decision over Harry Lewis, in 20 rounds, Paris.

1911—Eddie McGoorty outpointed Harry Ramsey in six rounds at Pitts-burgh.

HOLLY—XMAS TREES

WREATHS

JOHN RECK & SON

PRESIDENT DREYFUSS CONFIRMS REPORT THAT WAGNER HAS RETIRED FROM GAME



Confirmation that Honus Wagner, whom he characterized as the "greatest shortstop of all time," definitely has retired from baseball comes from Barney Dreyfuss, owner of the Pittsburgh Nationals.

"He really should not have tried last season," Dreyfuss said. "He found it impossible to play with the speed which the fans have grown accustomed to expect of Wagner."

"Honus quit the game, to which he has been a credit, with probably as many friends as any ball player ever had," Dreyfuss stated, adding that Wagner has accumulated a competence and would live in retirement with his family in a Pittsburgh suburb.

PLAN TO LET ALL CLUBS SHARE PROFITS ENDORSED

The second day's session of the National League brought out few of the startling situations which featured the opening day's session. The punch taken out of the meeting was Tuesday, when the Alexander-Killer deal was put over and Tener was re-elected president, despite his announced intention to devote practically his entire time to a new enterprise.

The National League rushed its business through three sessions—morning, afternoon and night, but on the whole, nothing but routine matters was transacted. The league worked in double quick time yesterday so the club owners might be able to leave this afternoon for the joint conference with the American League in Chicago, which is scheduled for today.

Announcement was made that both the questions of schedule and player limits were discussed informally, but that nothing could be done on those questions until the joint meeting with the American League. Tener announced, however, that it was the sense of the meeting to play again a 154 game schedule in 1918. Tener has continually maintained that it would be inadvisable to curb the old schedule, and will advocate the retention of the 154 game schedule at the Chicago meeting.

Give Player Right to Appeal.

It was learned, however, that the National League adopted a tentative schedule of 154 games, starting April 16 and closing Sept. 30. This would mean that the playing season would be about 10 days shorter than formerly, and would require a certain number of double headers.

The National League constitution was so amended that a player suspended for a period longer than 10 days will have the right of appeal to the board of directors. It was announced that this bit of legislation was adopted because of two contradictory sections of the constitution which were brought to light at the time of the McGraw trial last summer. At the time there was doubt whether McGraw or the New York club had the right of appeal from Tener's decision suspending McGraw 16 days. It was then decided there could be no appeal, but should a similar case arise the player now would have the right to appeal.

Only a year ago the league, desiring to give Tener unlimited power, passed an amendment to the constitution which did away with appeals from the president's decision. It is significant that yesterday's action

hotter punch than he could stand. The newspaper scribes were practically unanimous in crying "fake," but nobody believes that Terry had anything to do with the fixing. The Brooklyn whirlwind always fought to win, and no suspicion ever attached to his career. Gans, great fighter and thorough gentleman of color as he was, was mixed up in many affairs that were a trifle shady, to say the least. In signing to meet McGovern in Chicago on Dec. 13, 1909, Gans had agreed to stop his opponent within six rounds. A lot of "wise" money was wagered on the result, and it was some time before Gans was able to get back into the good graces of the sporting fraternity. Eventually he triumphed, and defeated Frank Erne for the lightweight championship of the world at Fort Erie, Ont., in 1902. He defended his title against Jimmy Britt, and defeated the Californian; he whipped Battling Nelson at Goldfield, but later lost his title to the Dane. Considering the Gans-McGovern fight as genuine, it gives the negro the distinction of being the only champion in the history of the ring to be knocked out and afterward recover his title.

GANS-McGOVERN BOUT ANNIVERSARY RECALLS OLD CHARGES OF FAKE.

It was seventeen years ago today that Joe Gans, the "old master" among the lightweights, was knocked out by "Terrible Terry" McGovern in Chicago. That battle has been and still is the subject of rabid discussion among boxing bugs, and the anniversary revives the old question, "Was it a fake?" Gans himself admitted that he had entered into a "gentlemen's agreement" before the battle, and by its terms was to succumb gracefully before the onslaughts of the Brooklynite in the fourth round. He declared that he had found McGovern able to administer more punishment than he cared to take, as he himself was under an agreement not to do anything in the way of real retaliation, and he therefore decided to quit in the second round, instead of the fourth. That may be the real explanation of the matter, but there are still many admirers of Terrible Terry who steadfastly believe that he administered a real knockout. Certainly the colored man gave an excellent imitation of a man who has assimilated a

AMERICAN LEAGUE MAGNATES PUT OFF WAR-TIME ACTION

Take No Definite Steps at Opening of Meeting Toward Settling Important Issues Now at Stake—Questions of Shortening Player Limits and Cutting Spring Training Trips to Be Discussed—Ruppert Against Change—Comiskey Re-elected Vice President.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—After a five-hour session, club owners of the American league adjourned their annual meeting tonight until tomorrow without taking definite action toward adopting a policy to pursue in connection with the war.

Questions of slashing the player limit, shortening the Spring training trips and other war measures will be taken up tomorrow.

President Ban Johnson was advised by August Herrmann, chairman of the National Baseball Commission, that the club owners of the National League, who have been in session in New York, would start West tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock for a joint meeting with the American Leaguers here on Friday. President Johnson had no information that John K. Tener, president of the National League, would attend.

Routine affairs and a brief discussion of the player limit commanded the attention of the American League today. They reached an understanding in regard to a method for collecting the federal war tax on passes, but withheld announcement until the joint meeting Friday.

The 1917 pennant was awarded to the Chicago club, and Charles A. Comiskey, president of the championship White Sox, was re-elected vice-president of the league.

The new board of directors is composed of Phil D. C. Ball, president of the St. Louis club; Frank Y. Navin, president of the Detroit club; Ben S. Minor, of the Washington club, and B. F. Shibe, of Philadelphia.

President Johnson said tonight that the sentiment of the club owners strongly favored retention of the present player limit of twenty-five men and continuation of the usual Spring training trips. There had been reports that the training trips might be shortened to two or three weeks.

Opposition to reducing the player limit came from Colonel Jacob Ruppert, one of the owners of the New York club, and President Comiskey of the Chicago Americans.

Ruppert on Player Limit.

"I think we should continue as in

the past," Colonel Ruppert said. "We couldn't possibly get along with eighteen men. The lowest number, in my judgment, would be twenty-one. That roster would give us seven pitchers, three catchers, six infielders and five outfielders. This number is necessary if we are to be prepared to face injuries and accidents to regular players."

"They say that pennants have been won with only eighteen men. If I could select the eighteen players I wanted I could give New York a pennant winner in a hurry. It's necessary to carry undeveloped minor leaguers even although they do not get into a game once or twice a year. The average minor leaguer coming to the big leagues is scared to death and it requires time for him to wear off his stage fright."

President Comiskey opposed any reduction in playing schedules, or player limit, and opposed discussion of any panic which might come to baseball through thoughts of the war.

Comiskey Optimistic.

"The game has passed through other crises and will live through this one," Comiskey said. "I believe the public wants the game and until it says otherwise it is up to us to succeed along the lines we always have followed."

There is a possibility that Del Pratt, second baseman with the St. Louis Americans, may be traded to New York before the end of the week.

Colonel Ruppert, of the Yankees, said last night that he was prepared to offer cash or players for him. Pratt has a \$100,000 suit alleging libel pending against President Ball, of the St. Louis club and is known to be anxious to play elsewhere.

Clark Griffith, manager of the Washington club, who is collecting funds for the "Bat and Ball Fund" to provide American soldiers with baseball equipment announced that he had forwarded a third shipment to Pershing's forces in France. The latest shipment is valued at \$5,000.

BARROW QUILTS AS INTERNATIONAL HEAD

Ed Barrow is no longer the president of the International League. Ed got back at the International League club owners for their ruthless assault on his \$7,500 salary at the meeting on Tuesday, by resigning yesterday morning. "I'm through with the International League forever," said Barrow at the Waldorf yesterday. "I wouldn't take the job again for any amount."

Barrow succeeded Pat Powers as executive of the league. It was learned yesterday from an authentic source that Jack Dunn, of Baltimore, and Ben Wilson, of Richmond, led the fight against Barrow. Jim Price of Newark, Sammy Litchheim of Montreal, and James McCaffery of Toronto, fought the issue for him.

Y. M. H. A. DEFEATS ELM CITY PLAYERS

With two minutes to play and the New Haven boys in the lead by the score of 29 to 25, Karn, center for the Y. M. H. A., surprised the Elm City boys by shooting baskets from all angles of the floor, winning for his team by the score of 32 to 31. The game was one of the most exciting seen in years on the Bridgeport Boys' club court and the New Haveners deserved a win from the locals.

It seemed that the New Haveners would run away with the game in the first half, but the Hebrew boys were not discouraged and went after everything, shooting baskets from all sides of the floor. Cohen and Greenberg did some good work for the visiting team and Karn and Meyers starred for the Y. M. H. A.

This makes the fourth win for the Bridgeport lads and they are now looking for a team in this city to play them. It is expected that the Young Men's Christian association team will tackle the Hebrew boys next Wednesday and the C. A.'s promise to give the H. A. boys a run for supremacy of the city. Members of both associations are diligently practicing for next week's game and a fast contest is expected.

WESLEYAN COUNCIL CUT DOWN SPORTS

Middletown, Dec. 13.—As a war economy the Wesleyan athletic council announced today that it has voted to abolish the university track team and to cut the swimming team schedule to four meetings. The swimming dates allowed are:

Feb. 16, Springfield college in Middletown; Feb. 23, Massachusetts technology in Middletown; March 2, Williams in Williamstown; March 9, Amherst in Middletown.

Add Horrors of War: The poor rich people who have to struggle through 1918 in a 1917 pleasure car.

KRAMER CHAMPION IN SPRINT RACES

New York, Dec. 13.—Frank Kramer, idol of the cycling fans for a score of years, won the indoor sprint championship from three other cracks last night at Madison Square Garden. He annexed the first prize of \$1,000 by defeating Alfred Goulet, Outdoor Champion Arthur Spencer and the Italian champion, Francesco Verri, the race being run in heats, two men in a heat.

Kramer was at his best and showed the form that won him man laurels for years past. He enjoyed the conditions of the match, only one man being opposed to him in the two heats he raced in, the first being Verri, the Italian, and the second, Spencer, the champion, who took the indoor title from him at Newark this year.

Arthur Spencer then engaged in a heat with Alfred Goulet the six-day champion, and proved his short distance ability by out-jockeying the Australian from the start, riding him high and opening a gap of five lengths when he shot to the front two laps from the finish.

Goulet made it a close finish, but with Spencer on the pole, he had the advantage and won by a good length.

ENSIGN COMMISSION FOR "CUPIE" BLACK

Newport, R. I., Dec. 13.—"Cupid" C. E. Black, former Yale football captain, who has been captain of the eleven of the Second Naval District and himself a boatswain's mate of the Naval Reserve force, has won a commission as ensign and recommended for duties on vessels of the fleet which might require all-round knowledge.

Black will be sent to the Naval Academy to undergo a course of sixteen weeks, when he will be given sea duty.

CONN. CO. NEEDS LARGE SUM MONEY FOR IMPROVEMENTS

The Connecticut Co. will need more than \$8,000,000 for necessary improvements in the next eight years, according to testimony given yesterday at the continued six-cent fare hearing by F. W. Whipple, chief engineer of power and construction. Mr. Whipple said that he based his estimates on market costs of three months ago and that prices are still going up.

An interesting point brought out was that the Jitneys take away from the trolley company probably \$6 or \$7 a day on each line on which they operate. "We will be forced to curtail operation on many of our lines within a short time because of the scarcity of help," said Mr. Punderford.

Y. M. C. A. QUINTET DEFEATS RECTORS

The Y. M. C. A. basketball team defeated the Rectors of the Boys' club at the former's court last night in a fast played game. Having a big advantage in weight the Y's had no difficulty in making it five out of six games for the season already played. The final score was 24-24.

The Rectors by some pretty passing made it nip and tuck for the first few minutes of play, but by clever shooting on the part of the Y. M. forwards and center, the latter drew away and led at the end of the first half by 19-9.

During the first part of the second half the Rectors again showed up well and shot up the score to 29-23, the Y. M. in the lead when the weight and superior shooting of the association quintet brought the final score to 24-24.

Altogether the Rectors showed to be clever at passing, but lacked the final push to put them in the lead. The "Y. M." team has improved a good deal in the last week by some hard practicing and promise to defeat the Kensington Arms, Vectors and Y. M. H. A. and the Walnut Beach quintet whom they play next week all on opposing teams' court.

Manager Greene of the Y. M. C. A. team would like to hear from other teams desiring games, preferring to hear from teams in New Haven.

EGG TO COMPETE IN 24-HOUR PACE RACE

The 24-hour motor pace team championship race will start in Madison Square Garden tonight, beginning at 10 o'clock. Preceding the getaway there will be a series of amateur sprint races and a big professional match.

Four teams will start in the championship race, and there will be two alternates. The daring riders are paired as follows: Oscar Egg and Vincent Madonna; Clarence Carlsen and Fred Hill; Victor Linart and Frank Corry, and Percy Lawrence and George Wiley. The spare men are Eddie Madden and Pete Drobach. This is the first time a team race behind the charging motor has ever been attempted indoors.

Talk Of Sports

PIPE DREAM.

While sitting puffing at my pipe, I dreamed between each draw that just for once my dope was right—I'd picked the twinning nag.

But when a littler ater on I woke up with a start. My pipe was out, and the nag I picked was pulling a water cart.

If the Toledo club doesn't make a better showing in 1918 than it did last season it won't be Roger Bresnahan's fault. The former Giant is hustling around for some good material for the coming season and is willing to bet dollars to doughnuts that his club will come out on top.

Thousands of fans are casting envious eyes toward the Panama Canal Zone, where baseball is now in full bloom. The ten clubs of the league are putting up a fine brand of ball and nine of them are out after the hide of the Ancon club, which won the pennant last season.

The Joplirn club of the Western League is priding itself considerably on the acquisition of Rudy Huiswitt, the former major leaguer. Rudy is going to manage the team, while lending a hand at playing.

Minor league players to the number of about one hundred are available for the big circuit, should an emergency arise.

Christy Mathewson was the first major league manager to use the pruning knife this year when, anticipating a cut in expenses, he released Pitchers Ring and Reuther, and utility player Cuto. Ring goes to the Chattanooga club of the Southern Association, and the other two players may join the same club in the spring. Mathewson is going to limit the Reds to seven pitchers next season. Ring once was on the pitching staff of the Yankees, while the Reds got Reuther from the Cubs last summer. Cuto joined the Reds in the Spring.